

## A B S T R A C T

5       The nozzle comprises a moving diverging portion (20) and  
a static portion (16) secured to the rear end wall of the  
combustion chamber (12) of the engine. A cardan mount jointed  
link device connects the moving diverging portion of the  
nozzle to the static portion, the moving diverging portion and  
the static portion being in mutual contact via respective  
10       spherical surfaces (24a, 16a), and an actuator device (50a,  
50b) acts on the moving diverging portion of the nozzle so as  
to be able to vary the direction of the thrust vector of the  
engine by modifying the orientation of the nozzle with sliding  
of the spherical surfaces one on the other. Resilient return  
15       means (62, 64) are interposed between the moving diverging  
portion (20) of the nozzle and the static portion (16) and act  
on the moving diverging portion in order to urge it towards  
the static portion so as to keep the spherical surfaces (24a,  
16a) in mutual contact for any desired orientation of the  
20       nozzle.